

March 22, 1977

MEMORANDUM

TO: Patt Derian

FROM: Mark L. Schneider

RE: Argentina Study Mission on Human Rights

~~Department of State, A/GIS/IPS/SRP~~
~~Change to~~
~~() Release () Excise () Deny () Declassify~~
~~Exemptions b () () E.O. 13526 25x () ()~~
~~Declassify after~~
~~With concurrence of:~~
~~obtained~~ ~~not obt.~~
~~IPS by~~ ~~2/1/77~~ Date 9-15-76

As I mentioned, you probably want to have some agreement beforehand on what you will be able to do. Below are some suggestions.

(A) Conditions To Be Met Prior To Trip:

(1) Argentine government agreement to permit private interviews with political prisoners, both specific individuals to be requested and others who are encountered in visits to detention centers.

(2) Argentine government agreement to make available sucy transportation and authorizations as may be necessary to visit detention centers and jails.

(3) Argentine government agreement to provide the mission with access to appropriate government officials, including members of the Junta.

(4) Argentine government agreement to permit the mission access to such foreign embassies and international agencies as missionmembers may desire.

(5) Argentine government agreement to permit the mission access to such trials as may be underway involving political prisoners.

Specific political prisoners with whom the mission may want to request private interviews:

(1) Dr. Ernest Villanueva, former dean of the University of Buenos Aires, allegedly located in La Plata jail, and

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reported by news accounts to have been moved to a "death row."

(2) Dr. Jorge Taiana, son of a former Education Minister, apparently in the same situation as Dr. Villanueva.

(3) Former Senator Solari Irogoyen.

(4) Elias Musse, Catholic priest detained in 1975, held in Olmos Prison in the city of La Plata in the province of Buenos Aires.

(5) Alberto Martinez Baca, Ex-governor of Mendoza, held in Magdalena Military prison. He is 72 years old, half blind.

(6) Jorge Cepernic, Ex-governor of Santa Cruz, held in Magdalena Military prison.

(7) Manuela Elmina Santucho, Held in concentration camp La Atomica, near Ezeisa in the province of Buenos Aires.

(8) Eduardo Raul Merbilha, Arrested on September 14, held at Campo de Mayo Military Garrison.

(9) Jorge Di Pascuale, Detained in December in Buenos Aires. He was the General Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Employees Union. Held at Federal Police Headquarters.

(10) Dora Golfarb, Judge in the Province of Mendoza. Held at Villa Devoto in the Province of Buenos Aires.

(11) Raymundo Glayser, Arrested in May of 1976. Famous filmmaker. Held at La Atomica, near Ezeisa Airport.

(12) Gregorio Klemovsky, Professor of Mathematics at University of Buenos Aires. Held at Villa Devoto Prison.

(13) Julio Varela, Arrested in Azul in November 10, 1974. Eligible for parole. Held in Sierra Chica Prison.

(I also have attached the xerox of the names that were in the letter Kennedy sent Vance. Perhaps their status and condition could be requested once there.)

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(B) Prisons:

Among the prisons which people have suggested that should be visited are the following. However, before leaving a contact should be made with the International Red Cross, through an NGO, to find out which of these is currently the worst. Probably, the School of Mechanics in Buenos Aires will be the hardest to get into. It might be requested after a general agreement to permit the mission to visit such detention centers where political prisoners are held has been entered into by the Argentine government. The Villa Devoto prison is where many of the women are being held.

Prisons That Should Be Visited:

- (1) Penitentiary in Cordoba, in Cordoba Prison
- (2) Sierra Chica Prison in Olavarria, Province of Buenos Aires
- (3) School of Mechanics in Buenos Aires (Reknown torture center)
- (4) Villa Devoto in La Plata, Province of Buenos Aires
- (5) Army Third Corps Garrison in Cordoba
- (6) Army Second Corp Garrison in Rosario
- (7) Rawson Prison in Rawson
- (8) Tenth Infantry Brigade Garrison in Mendoza
- (9) Tucuman Penitentiary
- (10) Resistencia Prison in Chaco, Province of Chaco

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(D) Also, I think the mission should have decided how it will handle reports, the press in Argentina and the U.S., and the kinds of recommendations that might be offered (if asked). I have attached the letter EMK sent to Pinochet (at his specific request) following our mission there. It was a private letter. However, Pinochet used it to blast EMK for interfering in the private affairs of Chile. We did not publish it; he did (in parts) along with his very sharp rejoinder. The recommendations begin on page seven.

I would think that you might indicate this mission will be glad to provide the Junta with its conclusions, on a private basis, if it so desires. Otherwise, it is in large part to be used to permit the State Department, as the Argentine government has expressed, to be sure that it has the truth regarding the condition of human rights in the country -- not out of any desire to interfere with Argentina's affairs but to carry out its responsibilities under U.S. law and to better inform President Carter regarding the real situation in Argentina.

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